

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (currently amended) An automated microscope system, comprising:

a microscope including a microscope stand; and,

a box including at least one control and power supply unit, said box arranged physically separate from said microscope stand and connected to said microscope stand by at least one connecting cable, said at least one control and power supply unit including ~~at least one~~ two or more ~~slide-in~~ standardized circuit board boards to be used for various types of said microscope stand wherein said ~~at least one~~ two or more ~~slide-in~~ standardized circuit board boards ~~is~~ are used for controlling at least one motor or lamp housed within said microscope stand.

Claim 7 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 further comprising an operating and computer unit connected to said box.

Claim 8 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 wherein said box possesses the same physical dimensions regardless of the use of an upright or inverted microscope.

Claim 9 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 wherein said box possesses the same shape and configuration regardless of the use of an upright or inverted microscope.

Claim 10 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 further comprising an illumination unit housed in said box, wherein said at least one connecting cable is a light guide that couples light generated by said illumination unit into said microscope stand.

Claim 11 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 wherein said at least one motor is selected from the group consisting of a focusing motor, a drive knob motor, an aperture diaphragm motor, a field diaphragm motor, a stage X-direction motor, and a stage Y-direction motor.

Claim 12 (currently amended) An automated microscope system, comprising:

a microscope including a microscope stand; and,
a box including at least one control and power supply unit, said box arranged physically separate from said microscope stand and connected to said microscope stand by at least one connecting cable, said at least one control and power supply unit including ~~at least one~~ two or more ~~slide-in~~ standardized circuit ~~board~~ boards to be used for various types of said microscope stand wherein said ~~at least one slid-in~~ two or more standardized circuit ~~board~~ boards ~~is~~ are used for controlling at least one motor ~~or~~ and lamp housed within said microscope stand, said at least one control and power supply unit, ~~further comprising a power supply for said microscope.~~

Claim 13 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 comprising an operating and computer unit connected to said box.

Claim 14 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 wherein said box possesses the same physical dimensions regardless of the use of an upright or inverted microscope.

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Claim 15 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 wherein said box possesses the same shape and configuration regardless of the use of an upright or inverted microscope.

Claim 16 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 further comprising an illumination unit housed in said box, wherein said at least one connecting cable is a light guide that couples light generated by said illumination unit into said microscope stand.

Claim 17 (previously presented) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 wherein said at least one motor is selected from the group consisting of a focusing motor, a drive knob motor, an aperture diaphragm motor, a field diaphragm motor, a stage X-direction motor, and a stage Y-direction motor.